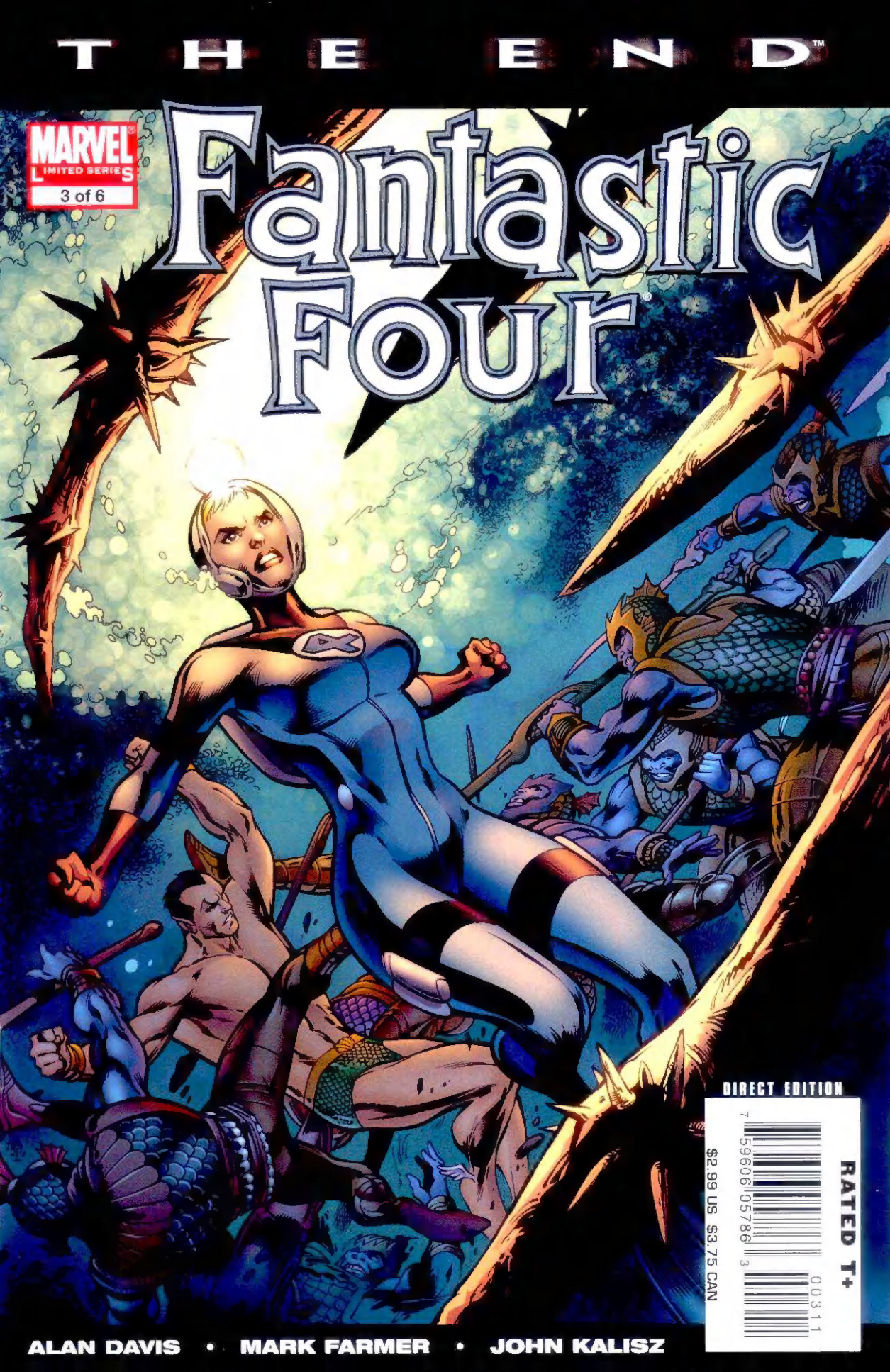
THE END™


MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
3 of 6
Fantastic Four
DIRECT EDITION
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ALAN DAVIS • MARK FARMER • JOHN KALISZ

THE END

YEARS IN THE FUTURE, AFTER THE DEATH OF FRANKLIN AND VALERIA RICHARDS, THE FANTASTIC FOUR ARE NO LONGER MARVEL'S FIRST FAMILY...AS A MATTER OF FACT, THEY AREN'T MUCH OF A FAMILY AT ALL.

REED RICHARDS, MR. FANTASTIC, HAS SEQUESTERED HIMSELF IN A HIGH-ORBITING SATELLITE, SEEING ONLY SHE-HULK, HIS PSYCHIATRIST, AND SPEAKING TO OTHERS RARELY. HE WORKS TO INTEGRATE THE SOLAR SYSTEM INTO THE UNIVERSE AT LARGE, BUT THE PARLIAMENT FOR GALACTIC UNITY IS SKEPTICAL OF OFFERING MEMBERSHIP TO OUR SYSTEM.

JOHNNY STORM, THE HUMAN TORCH, IS NOW A PROMINENT MEMBER OF THE AVENGERS. RECENTLY, PROXIES OF WELL-KNOWN *VILLAINS HAVE BEEN USED TO DISTRACT THE AVENGERS WHILE A QUARANTINE SATELLITE WAS DESTROYED, ALLOWING A* SHORT SIGNAL TO BE TRANSMITTED FROM OUTSIDE THE SOLAR SYSTEM TO MARS, WHERE...

BEN GRIMM, THE THING, HAVING GAINED THE ABILITY TO CHANGE BACK INTO HUMAN FORM, LIVES WITH HIS WIFE, ALICIA MASTERS AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN IN THE INHUMAN CIVILIZATION. EVEN THERE, HOWEVER, BEN IS LOOKED DOWN UPON, NOW FOR HIS HUMANITY.

SUE STORM, THE INVISIBLE WOMAN, HAVING LOST HER CHILDREN AND HER HUSBAND, FINDS SOLACE IN UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY. SHE EXPLORES WITH NAMOR BY HER SIDE, FENDING OFF RIVAL UNDERWATER-DWELLERS AND DISCOVERING A FORGOTTEN, SUNKEN KREE CITY, AND A SECRET MAP, HIDDEN BENEATH AN ANCIENT ALTAR.

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1 IBET.
THERE IS NO INDIVIDUALITY...
WE ARE ALL ONE WITH EACH OTHER AND ALL THINGS. PATTERNS OF SHIFTING CONSISTENCY IN THE FABRIC OF BEING.
THERE IS NO DISTANCE... NO TIME...THEY ARE CONSTRUCTS OF OUR LIMITED PHYSICAL SENSES...
IGNORE THEM...ALL REALITY IS ILLUSION.
I'M TRYING, FATHER...
DO NOT TRY--SIMPLY BE!
FORGIVE ME, FATHER. I HAVE FAILED YOU.
NO, CLEA. THERE IS NO FAILURE OR SUCCESS...BOTH ARE ILLUSION.
YOU ARE DISTRACTED BY YOUR CONCERNS OVER THE CHALLENGE I MUST UNDERTAKE.
MUST YOU ACCEPT IT?
EMOTION BLINDS YOU TO THE TRUTH--TRAPS YOU IN ILLUSION LIKE A FLY IN AMBER.

MY FEAR IS A CONSEQUENCE OF LOVE--MY LOVE FOR YOU ENRICHES ME. I CANNOT...I WILL NOT FORSAKE IT.
BUT THE ULTIMATE TRUTH AND POWER COULD BE YOURS--
ALL YOU NEED DO IS RELINQUISH YOUR EMOTIONS...RECOGNIZE THEY ARE ILLUSIONS--WORTHLESS.
NO! I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT. NOTHING IS AS IMPORTANT AS LOVE...
YOU WOULD SACRIFICE EVERYTHING FOR LOVE?
YES.
EVERYTHING FOR THE LOVE OF A CHILD FOR A PARENT?
YES.
AND IF YOU HAD CHILDREN...?
OF COURSE--
OH!
I UNDERSTAND, FATHER...FORGIVE ME FOR DOUBTING YOUR WISDOM.

THE MID-ATLANTIC RIDGE.
SWIM, SUSAN... FLEE TO SAFETY.
YOUR ATLANTEAN NOTION OF GALLANTRY IS WOEFULLY OUT OF DATE, NAMOR...
IF A PACK OF UGLY BLUE BARBARIANS DECIDE TO ATTACK ME...
...THEY HAD BETTER HAVE A SYMPATHETIC MEDICAL CARE PROVIDER...
KR-UMP

POOM
...FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR UGLY PET!
THE STEEL AND DETERMINATION I SAW IN YOUR HEART WHEN FIRST WE MET HAS BLOSSOMED, SUSAN. YOU ARE A TRULY REMARKABLE WOMAN.
THANK YOU, NAMOR... JUST REMEMBER THAT'S MARRIED WOMAN.
YOUR PARDON, MY LIEGE.
WE WERE DISPATCHED TO PURSUE THESE BARBARIANS AFTER THEIR SNEAK ATTACK ON ATLANTIS.
RETURN WITH ME TO ATLANTIS. EVEN WITH YOUR POWERS YOU WILL NOT BE SAFE OUT HERE ALONE. MY INTENTIONS ARE HONORABLE--YOU HAVE MY WORD.
I KNOW YOU MEAN WELL, NAMOR, BUT I'M NOT THE SAME DEFENSELESS GIRL YOU KIDNAPPED ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.
MY FORCE FIELDS--AND CONTROL OVER THEM--HAVE INCREASED THROUGH THE DECADES.
THEN ATTUMA HAS CHOSEN TO REKINDLE THE ANCIENT WAR.

I CAN NOW MODULATE THEM TO BE PERMEABLE...TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE BY ALLOWING BREATHABLE GAS TO PASS FROM THE WATER--
--OR TO REDUCE GRAVITY SO WE STILL FLOAT IN AIR.
YOU SEE... I DON'T NEED TO TURN INVISIBLE AND HIDE ANYMORE... I CAN LOOK AFTER MYSELF.
THANK YOU FOR BEING A GOOD FRIEND, NAMOR.
SUSAN...
FASH
GLAHH!
SIRE, ARE YOU HURT?
MERELY CAUGHT OFF GUARD BY THE COLLAPSING FORCE FIELD. SUSAN DID NOT WANT ME TO FOLLOW.
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY DRIVE THE FAIR LADY TO WILLINGLY ENTER YON HELLISH PLACE?
I WISH I KNEW.

MARS
THIS IS PARADISE, HONEY...
...I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' ABOUT TERRAFORMIN', BUT IN MY OPINION, YOU ARE THE BEST.
I'LL SECOND THAT!
JOHN! ...NORRIN.
WE WERE IN THE AREA AND THOUGHT WE'D DROP BY-- SEE IF YOU'D LEARNED TO WALK UPRIGHT YET, BEN.

JOHN, HOW THE DEVIL ARE YA?
GROAN... ...A LOT FLATTER THAN I WAS A MINUTE AGO!
HOW LONG'S IT BEEN?
WHAT MONTH IS THIS?
I DUNNO... WHAT YEAR IS IT?
YOU LOOK GREAT! REALLY GREAT! HOW ARE THINGS..?
FINE. GOOD. JUST PASSING BY, Y'KNOW.
YOU LOOK WONDERFUL, ALICIA.
THANK YOU, JOHN--
BOY, THOSE KIDS HAVE GROWN.
AND I'M GLAD TO SEE THEY GOT THEIR MOTHER'S LOOKS.
WHO'S THIS HIDING HERE... IS IT YANCY? I'M YOUR UNCA JOHN...
JOHN WANT ICE CREAM

OOOPS!
GUESS THE PARTY WE WERE GONNA HAVE LATER IS OFF.
THUD
WHAT CAN WE DO WITH ALL THIS WASTED FOOD?
FOOD FIGHT!
FOOD FIGHT!
YEAH... FOOD FIGHT!
WAIT, GUYS...C'MON... GUYS...
SPLAT
SPLOP
SPLAT
SPLUT
SPLAT
HERE, UNCLE JOHN... HAVE SOME MORE CREAM PIE!
DANIEL, JACOB, STOP THIS RIGHT NOW--
HOLD ON, HONEY. IT'S JUST A BIT OF HARMLESS FUN.
JOHN'S ALWAYS LOVED PRACTICAL JOKES.
SPLAT
FWUP
REMEMBER HOW HE USED TO LAUGH...
...AN' LAUGH...
SPLAT
PAYBACK!

THE LT'RINI NEBULA.
OUR RIGELIAN FRIEND WAS EAGER TO GIVE ME THE DATA HIS PEOPLE COLLECTED--
--THEY ARE A PETTY SPECIES AND THE WORM HOPES I WILL SIDE WITH HIM AGAINST THE SKRULL IN THE NEXT COUNCIL.
AS YOU SEE, THEIR RECORD OF THE RECENT GALAXY-WIDE DISRUPTIONS APPEARS QUITE RANDOM IN ISOLATION.
ADDING OUR SHI'AR ANALYSIS...A PATTERN FORMS--YES.
I BELIEVE OUR KREE CONTRIBUTION WILL CONFIRM WHAT WE SUSPECT.
IT IS A SHOCKWAVE--A GALAXY-WIDE SHOCKWAVE.
WHAT COULD CAUSE SOMETHING SO MOMENTOUS, LORD RONAN?
OF THAT WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE--BUT THE POINT OF ORIGIN IS CLEAR--
IT IS THE EARTH.

EARTHSPACE.
...HERALD SIGNAL RECEIVED, REED.
OKAY, WYATT. H.R.B. PROBE ON GATE APPROACH.
ENTERING FINAL LOCK... NINE, EIGHT...
TRANSIT ARC OPEN AND STABLE... SIX, FIVE, FOUR...
...THREE, TWO, ONE...
TERMINATOR CROSSED--TELEMETRY FEED OFF-LINE...
ARC CONFIRMED--ALL GREEN.
ZERO PLUS ONE--
WYATT?!

WYATT... RESPOND...
...WYATT...
WE'RE OKAY, REED...
...OUR COMM WENT DOWN WHEN THE ARRIVAL RESTRAINT OVERLOADED.
THE H.R.B.?
SAME AS ALL THE OTHERS I'M AFRAID, REED...TOTALLY IRRECOVERABLE.
TRACE RADIOACTIVITY--CORE TEMPERATURE 1700 DEGREES--ZERO MAGNETIC FIELD.
NO VISIBLE IMPACT DAMAGE.
THANKS, WYATT--SEND YOUR ANALYSIS AND WE'LL TALK LATER.
THIS SHOULD HAVE WORKED!
IT SHOULD WORK!
WHAT IS GOING WRONG? WHAT AM I MISSING?
KRMP

NOT THAT I MIND WEARING MY OLD UNIFORM, BUT COULDN'T YOU FIND ANYTHING ELSE FOR ME TO WEAR WHILE THE LAUNDRY CLEANS UP YOUR KIDS' HANDIWORK?
IT'LL HELP KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE.
TROUBLE?
DIDN'T YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT THE INHUMANS WHO WEAR MASKS ALL THE TIME?
NO... BUT NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT--
IT'S A KINDA TRADITION... NEAREST I CAN MAKE OUT, IT'S A SYMBOLIC PUBLIC APOLOGY FOR LOOKIN' TOO HUMAN--
THE INHUMANS DON'T LIKE HUMAN FACES?
IT'S WAY MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT--AND REAL ANCIENT--BUT SINCE MOVING TO MARS SOME OF THE FUNDAMENTALISTS ARE PUSHING TO RETURN TO THE OLD WAYS.
THE FANTASTIC FOUR ARE STILL HELD IN HIGH REGARD, SO YOU'LL BE SAFE.
NOW... WE'RE ALMOST AT THE PALACE--SO WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH YOU WANTIN' T'VISIT THE ROYAL FAMILY?
YOU GUESSED--
YOU'VE AVOIDED THE INHUMANS SINCE Y'SPLIT WITH CRYSTAL...
...BUT THEY'VE BEEN GOOD FRIENDS T'ME AND ALICIA.
OKAY, LONG STORY SHORT... SOMEONE WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO SEND A SIGNAL FROM OUTSIDE THE SOLAR SYSTEM TO MARS.
SO FURY PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER AND SUSPECTS THE INHUMANS OF WORKING WITH THE KREE?

I TRUST THE ROYAL FAMILY TOO, BUT...
YEAH... I KNOW MILITARY THINKING.
SO, HAS ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS HAPPENED RECENTLY?
OTHER THAN YOUR ARRIVAL... NO...
JOHNNY.
CRYSTAL... YOU LOOK AWESOME... AND THE MASK IS NEW--
IT IS CEREMONIAL.
IT'S HOT!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
AREN'T YOU PLEASED TO SEE ME?
IF I WAS THE REASON YOU WERE HERE, PERHAPS...
...BUT IT CANNOT [redacted] COINCIDENCE THAT YOU ARRIVE AT THE VERY MOMENT THE ROYAL FAMILY LEARNS OF A POTENTIAL CRISIS.
PLANETARY SECURITY HAS DETECTED AN INEXPLICABLE ENERGY SPIKE IN A REMOTE DESERT AREA TO THE SOUTH...HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY FROM ANY COLONIZATION WORK.
THE ENERGY LEVEL LOOKS COLOSSAL...AND IT'S ESCALATING.
BLACK BOLT ASKS WHAT YOU KNOW OF THIS?
NOTHING-- EXCEPT THAT WE NEED TO INVESTIGATE-- IMMEDIATELY!
AND BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!

THE GALACTIC CORE.

MAY I APPROACH, GALACTUS?

YOU HAVE TRESPASSED THIS FAR.

WITH GOOD CAUSE, I FEAR.

FOR THE EARTH, WATCHER UATU?

--LAID YOU LOW IN BATTLES OF YOUR OWN DESIGN. AND WHEN YOUR LIFE WAS THEIRS TO TAKE--YOU WERE SPARED.

ONCE AGAIN YOU BREAK YOUR OATH TO INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF A PRIMITIVE SPECIES.

THAT PRIMITIVE SPECIES DEFIED YOUR WILL IN THE PAST, *WORLD-EATER*--

DARE NOT TO TEST MY PATIENCE, WATCHER.

THE *TEST*, GALACTUS, IS WHETHER YOU ARE WORTHY OF THAT PRIMITIVE SPECIES' COMPASSION.

WAKANDA, AFRICA
SUCH A SHORT TIME AGO, THIS LAND WAS DYING...
...BUT THE FUTURE OFFERS UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO YOUR GENERATION, T'CHAKA.
I WILL DO MY BEST TO BE WORTHY, FATHER.
YOU MAKE ME PROUD, T'CHAKA. BUT YOUR FRIENDS ARE WAITING--GO NOW AND ENJOY THE CELEBRATION OF YOUR INITIATION.
BUT DO NOT OVERINDULGE--THE HUNT BEGINS AT FIRST LIGHT TOMORROW.
REED... ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
FINE, T'CHALLA...FINE. DID YOU HAVE ANY LUCK WITH THE DATA I TRANSMITTED?

ARE YOU STILL WORKING, REED? YOU SHOULD BE HERE. TODAY IS MY SON'S INITIATION. YOU WERE INVITED.
YES...I MEANT TO REPLY. SORRY. I JUST COULDN'T LEAVE THIS EXPERIMENT... THAT'S WHY I NEED YOUR DATA ANALYSIS.
I REVIEWED THE MATERIAL WITH MY TOP PEOPLE AND WE ALL AGREE WITH YOUR FINDINGS.
MATHEMATICALLY AT LEAST. THE EQUATIONS AND THEORIES ARE FAR OUTSIDE OUR FIELDS OF EXPERTISE.
YOU MIGHT GET A FRESH PERSPECTIVE IF YOU TOOK A BREAK-- THIS IS A WONDERFUL PARTY--
I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING...IT'S INFURIATING.
LISTEN, REED. I HAVE A FRIEND HERE...
...WHO SAID SHE HOPED TO SPEAK WITH YOU WHEN YOU--
TCHHSSHHH... LOZZZ... SIGGKRRZZZ...
REED?!
HE'S OBSESSED WITH WORK. I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO TALK WITH HIM BEFORE I LEFT...AND NOW I'M A LITTLE WORRIED...
HE BROKE CONTACT AND I CAN'T REESTABLISH A LINK.
CLEARLY HE DOES NOT WISH TO BE DISTURBED, JENNIFER.
...I HOPE HE'S OKAY.

...THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED INDIVIDUALLY SHIELDED COM-CHANNELS *CANNOT* CRASH SIMULTANEOUSLY.
COMPUTER-- INITIATE A COMPLETE CCS DIAGNOSTIC...AND I WANT H.R.B.S TO PHYSICALLY CHECK *EVERY* POWER COUPLING.
YOU REALLY MUST TAKE IT EASY, REED.
WHO THE DEV--
OH, I...
I THOUGHT YOU HAD GONE BACK TO EARTH, JENNIFER.
I COULDN'T-- NOT THE WAY WE LEFT THINGS...
AND NOW I AM GLAD I STAYED.
TO SEE ME LOSE CONTROL-- I MUST HAVE LOOKED PRETTY CRAZY.
YOU'RE HUMAN, REED.
IS THAT A PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS?
I AM NOT HERE AS YOUR THERAPIST--I AM YOUR FRIEND.
I WANT TO HELP. TRUST ME...

THE MID-ATLANTIC HYDROTHERMAL RIDGE.
COMPUTER, LOWER THE CABIN TEMPERATURE.
CANNOT COMPLY. LIFE SUPPORT AT MAXIMUM. EXTERNAL TEMPERATURE 670 DEGREES AND CLIMBING.
OKAY. I'LL MAKE THIS QUICK.
EASY, GIRL...DON'T FAIL ME NOW... JUST A LITTLE CLOSER.
YES. THEY'RE THE SAME...
...EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE RUNES IN AGATHA'S TOME.
NOW IF ONLY I'VE TRANSLATED THEM CORRECTLY...
SEISMIC ALERT.
A VENT HAS OPENED RIGHT UNDER US--NAVIGATE AN ESCAPE ROUTE.
KOOM
CURRENT EXCEEDING THRUST CAPACITY.
OH MY LORD--

THIS LOOKS BAD... DUMP ALL BALLAST.
TAKE US UP, FAST.
CANNOT COMPLY. HEAT EXPANSION IMPAIRING EXTERNAL CONTROLS.
OKAY THEN, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN RIDE THIS OUT.
HULL INTEGRITY COMPROMISED.
SKRKKKK
UNCONTROLLED DESCENT... ACCELERATING.
IMPACT ALERT
IMPACT ALERT
IMPACT ALER--
AHH!

MARS.
CRYSTAL, CAN YOU USE YOUR POWER TO DIVERT THAT DUST STORM IN OUR PATH?
NO. IT IS NOT A NATURAL PHENOMENON.
CRYSTAL IS CORRECT. OUR TARGET IS AT THE STORM'S CENTER... AND IT IS SCANNING OUR CRAFT.
THAT'S NO SCAN. IT'S A WEAPONS LOCK. QUICKLY, MEDUSA...
...FLIP THE CAR.
ZZAAT
ZAT
ZRAAK
I'LL GET BEN, SURFER.
FLAME ON!
UNF! YOU'VE PUT ON WEIGHT--LUCKY YOU DIDN'T GET TO EAT ALL THOSE PICNIC PIES.
YOU WON'T BE LAUGHING WHEN YOU SEE WHAT SHOT US DOWN, JOHN.

A KREE SENTRY...
...HIDDEN HERE CENTURIES AGO AND ACTIVATED BY THAT SIGNAL. FURY WAS RIGHT.
DIRECTIVE DELTA NINE.
MAINTAIN OPTIMUM STEALTH.
OKAY, ROBOT, I'M A REPRESENTATIVE OF EARTH SECURITY AND YOUR PRESENCE HERE IS A VIOLATION OF THE GALACTIC QUARANTINE PROTOCOL.
OBSCURE ACTIVITY.
ELIMINATE ALL WITNESSES!
AK
To be continued...

MARVEL HEROES HOTSPOT

"Quicker than quick! Stronger than strong!"

HOTSPOT HOT BOOK...
NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1!

Okay, so in a month chock full of CIVIL WAR happenings that are rocking your favorite heroes (and villains), how does NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1 sneak into the "Hot Book" spotlight? Because they're controlling everything, people! For years, six men have worked together in secret to mold the status of Earth itself. Sorcerer Supreme Doctor Strange! King of the Inhumans, Black Bolt! Professor X! Namor, the Sub-Mariner! Mister Fantastic! The invincible Iron Man! How have their actions impacted upon the stories you only think you know? You'll find out here, thanks to the titanic team of writers Brian Michael Bendis and Brian Reed and penciler Jim Cheung! Don't live in ignorance, friends--learn how the Illuminati is shaping your universe!

HOTSPOT LETTER O' THE MONTH!

What keeps all your favorite writers, artists, and Marvel's crew of editors and production whizzes working? Not mere food and water! Nay, our souls hunger for the true life source: reader letters! So send in your thoughts, friends! Tell us what's on your mind, what you want to see, or how we can keep the Marvel magic alive! Just like Guido Cuadros did, all the way from Brazil! Take it away, Guido!

Dear Tom Brevoort:

Marvel is my favorite comics company by far. I celebrate that, along with the numerous titles that already own their own letters pages, you guys have decided to create this "Marvel Heroes Hotspot" section.

Places like this one, where fans can participate with questions and commentaries, and where editors not only attend to our inquiries, but surprise us with anecdotes, experiences and news are very needed. You really make us fans feel like we're valued members of the Marvel family, giving us "all access" information and asking always for our opinion and impressions. It's nice to know that our voice will be heard and taken into account.

I don't believe that "leaving it all to the internet" is the best solution or the next obligatory step towards the evolution of interaction relationships for readers, creators and editors. I know there are a lot of blogs, forums and message boards out there in cyberspace, excellent sites some of them, but those will never compare with the magic that printed letters pages have. To be part of the comic itself is what makes them special.

I'm really grateful to Marvel for giving me a space in their comics to express myself and to share my opinions with the rest of the readers (thousands of them, you know?). While something written on the internet can very easily go unnoticed, be ignored or only read by a few.

One of my dreams is to work someday in the House of Ideas, as an assistant editor, in charge of some letter columns, maybe even as a comic writer, or as a cleaner guy, I don't care, it would be an honor. And when I start thinking that it's a dream too difficult to achieve, I remember that a lot of guys working there started their careers as simple fans who used to write letters to Marvel, just like me, just like you once did, Mr. Tom Brevoort, or should I say "Tommy B."?

Guido Cuadros F.A.
Lima, Perú.

Thanks for writing in, Guido! Yes, many of us here in the Hallowed Halls started out as readers, and, like you, even had letters printed in the pages of a Marvel comic. But after years of effort--not to mention a huge helping of luck--we now call the House of Ideas home! So keep chasing your dreams! And keep the letters coming to mheroes@marvel.com!

HERO HALL O' FAME:
THE RALPH MACCHIO BOOK!

When it came time to show editor Ralph Macchio how much we appreciated his thirty years at the House of Ideas, we had to do it in the Mighty Marvel Manner! Thus was born THE RALPH MACCHIO BOOK, a priceless hardcover filled with the autographs and illustrations by some of the industry's top talents! Mary Jane & Spidey by John Romita Sr.! The Hulk by Sal Buscema! Wolverine by Andy Kubert! And to top it all off, an intro by Stan "The Man" Lee! Yes, friends, all you have to do is get hired by Marvel, help put out some of the greatest comics ever published, survive various regime changes and downsizings for three decades, and you too can be the proud owner of a one-of-a-kind keepsake. So thanks for all the years of carrying the True Believer's Torch of Truth, Ralph...now where's that next issue of THE ULTIMATES?!

AUBREY'S OUT-OF-CONTEXT FUNNIES

This month's doozy comes from DAREDEVIL #122, JUNE 1975

ON SALE DECEMBER 2006

AMAZING SPIDER-GIRL #3: Brrr! It's Spider-Girl vs. Bitter Frost!

ANNIHILATION #5: With the war lost, Ronan and Super-Skrull unite to free the Kree!

AVENGERS NEXT #3 & #4: Will the Avengers' mysterious foe drain the heroes of their powers?

AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #3 & #4: It's the Avengers vs. an army of Super-Adaptoids!

BEYOND #6: Will anyone make it off Battleworld alive?

BLADE #4: Blade battles a demon-possessed mall Santa! Ho Ho DEATH!

CIVIL WAR #6: Cap's forces prepare to take down Iron Man's side once and for all.

CIVIL WAR: FRONTLINE #9: Speedball comes face-to-face with his accuser!

CIVIL WAR: WAR CRIMES #1: The Kingpin picks a side in the Civil War...but what does he really want?

DAREDEVIL #92: Who's been pulling Daredevil's strings for the past year? The mystery is revealed!

DOCTOR STRANGE: THE OATH 3: Doctor Strange learns the identity of the villain who holds Wong's life in his hands!

FANTASTIC FOUR: THE END #3: Deep beneath the ocean, Sue makes a discovery that could change the future of her family!

IMMORTAL IRON FIST #2: What has Iron Fist done to awaken the wrath of Hydra?

IRON MAN #14: A CIVIL WAR tie-in. What price must Tony Stark pay for his pro-registration stance?

IRON MAN/CAPTAIN AMERICA: CASUALTIES OF WAR #1: A CIVIL WAR tie-in. Can these former allies make amends?

IRREDEEMABLE ANT-MAN #3: Find out why everyone loves to hate the all-new ANT-MAN in his least redeemable tale yet!

MS. MARVEL #10 A CIVIL WAR tie-in. Ms. Marvel and Wonder Man must bring in one of their own!

NEW AVENGERS #26: Hawkeye's back, and he's targeting the Scarlet Witch!

NEW AVENGERS: ILLUMINATI #1: Learn how six heroes secretly shaped the Marvel Universe!

SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #33: How has Spidey's unmasking affected his beloved Aunt May?

SHE-HULK #14: Everything you ever wanted to know about Awesome Andy!

THUNDERBOLTS #109: The return of Moonstone!

UNION JACK #4: The final battle between Union Jack and RAID, right in the heart of London!

WINTER SOLDIER: WINTER KILLS #1: CASUALTIES OF WAR. Bucky looks for redemption on his first Christmas in the 20th Century.

~~FIVE~~ SIX FUN FACTOIDS FROM STEPHEN WACKER

(EDITOR OF SILENT WAR AND FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN)

1) Warren Simons uses "dude" and "bro" like he's being paid by "Dude and Bro, Inc.". Enough already.
2) Aubrey Sitterson has luxurious, movie star style hair.
3) Molly Lazer sings and dances...but not in the office. In Connecticut.
4) Bill Rosemann never spoke to Steve when they worked at DC. Same here at Marvel.
5) Alejandro Arbona is as tall as Aubrey's hair is beautiful.
6) Tom Brevoort actually has all the completed issues of CIVIL WAR in his desk but chooses to ship them late.

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MARK E-MAIL "OKAY TO PRINT"